JOURNEY TO THE SEA OF CORTEZ & WHALE SHARKS

May 22 – 26 and Nov. 5 - 9, 2017 – 5 Day Expeditions
La Paz, Baja California Sur, Mexico
Trip Highlights:

- Join us onboard our 110’ motor yacht, the MV Adventure, as we take you on a Journey to the Sea of Cortez.
- This stunning Galapagos style setting is an amazing environment for snorkeling, kayaking, and hiking. It is an ideal backdrop for a true wilderness adventure.
- Our goal, to experience the world of the mysterious whale shark.
- The expedition offers the opportunity to work alongside world renowned whale shark scientist, Dra. Deni Ramirez Macias or members of her research team.
- Experiences like these are extraordinary, and often life changing, leaving our guests with memories of a lifetime.

Natural History:

- The Sea of Cortez is one of the most bio-diverse seas on earth. It is home to thousands of species of marine mammals, birds, fish and invertebrates.
- The raw untouched beauty of the sea and surrounding islands offers the explorer a true adventure. It holds thousands of years of history and endless trails of discovery.
- Both pregnant females and juvenile whale sharks can often be found feeding in the area. The females around Isla Espiritu Santos and the juveniles at Mogote just outside the Bay of La Paz.
- Rich in natural history, unspoiled in beauty, unrivalled in marine life, the Sea of Cortez is a world of a different time, place and rhythm.

The Ship, the MV Adventure:

- The "MV Adventure" is a 110’ aluminum hull ship.
- Certified passenger vessel, crew, vessel paperwork, safety and navigation equipment meet the legal requirements under the “Nacional de Seguridad Maritima” laws.
- Multiple level decks are ideal for wildlife viewing.
- Accommodations are private staterooms with single berths (upper/lower), double/quad occupancy.
- Each stateroom comes complete with air conditioning, cupboards and draws to un-pack in, sink/vanity and comfortable spacious bunks.
- Shared restrooms and showers are separate to the staterooms.
- The Captain, engineer and crew are onboard to insure the safety and well-being of the group. They bring many years of marine experience offering the warmth and kindness that reflects the people of Baja, Mexico.

Climate:

- **May** air temperature in the Sea of Cortez ranges from 24-28º C (75-82º F). Water temperature ranges from 18-22º C (65-72º F).
- **Nov.** air temperature in the Sea of Cortez ranges from 22-26º C (72-79º F). Water temperature ranges from 20-24º C (68-75º F).
- In the Baja the days are warm and beautiful however the evenings cool down and often require light pants and a jacket.
Itinerary:

Day 1 (May 22 / Nov. 5): Arrival
- Our drivers will pick you up at the Cabo (SJD) or La Paz (LAP) airport and transfer you to the ship in La Paz. Anticipate a beautiful 2.5 hour drive from the Cabo Airport.
- Once guests have boarded the ship we will depart for the islands.

Day 2 - 4: At Sea
- Today we begin our adventure at sea. Areas to be explored include; Isla Espiritu Santos, Isla Partida, Isla San Francisco, Isla San Jose and Isla Pardito.
- Each day we will check off the list of activities mentioned below. On Days 3 and 4 we will be snorkeling with the whale sharks collecting research data.

Day 4: Anchoring in the Bay of La Paz
- We will arrive back into the Bay of La Paz in the early evening and anchor for the night.

Day 5 (May 26 / Nov. 9): Departure
- Disembark at 9:00 am, our drivers will return you to the Cabo or La Paz Airport for your return flight home.

Planned Activities:
- Snorkeling
- Kayaking
- Hiking
- Astronomy
- Nightlight
- Wildlife Encounters
  - whale sharks
  - whales
  - dolphins
  - sea lions
- birds
- undersea life
- desert island flora / fauna
- Cultural interaction – visits to remote island communities.
Expedition Includes:

- Airport transfers while in Mexico (expedition dates)
- 5 days / 4 nights onboard the MV Adventure
- Ship amenities (meals, alcohol / non-alcohol beverages, accommodations, snorkel gear, kayaks and ships library)
- National Park fees
- All-inclusive!

Expedition DOES NOT Include:

- Airfare
- Medical / Travel Cancellation / Trip Interruption Insurance
- Crew gratuities
- Items of a personal nature

Expedition Cost:

- **$1595.00** USD per person
- group size 14 participants

Panterra Facebook Photo Album links to past expeditions:

- Natural History and Whale Shark Research Fall (juveniles) 2015
- Natural History and Whale Shark Research Spring 2015 (pregnant female whale sharks)
- Natural History and Whale Shark Research 2014

Panterra Trip Advisor Reviews

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